



NOT AVAILABLE COPY

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As below named inventors we hereby declare that: Our residence, post office address and citizenship is as stated below next to our names.

We believe we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention, entitled:

FIBER OPTIC CONNECTOR FOR APPLYING AXIAL BIASING FORCE TO MULTIFIBER FERRULE

of which:

Check One



is attached hereto.



was filed on _____, (if applicable)

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with *Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations*, Section 1.56(a).

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under *Title 35, United States Code*, 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Applications: None

| | | | |
|--------|---------|----------------------|--|
| N/A | N/A | N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Number | Country | Day/Month/Year Filed | Priority Claimed |
| N/A | N/A | N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Number | Country | Day/Month/Year Filed | Priority Claimed |

We hereby claim the benefit under *Title 35, United States Code*, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of *Title 35, United States Code*, Section 112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined by *Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations*, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| <i>Application Serial No.</i> | <i>Filing Date</i> | <i>Status: Patented/Pending/Abandoned</i> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---|

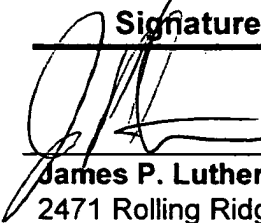
We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of *Title 18 of the United States Code* and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

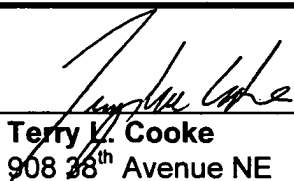
POWER OF ATTORNEY

As named inventors, we hereby appoint Timothy J. Aberle (Registration Number 36,383), Michael E. Carroll, Jr. (Registration Number 46,602), and Christopher C. Dremann (Registration Number 36,504) our attorneys with full powers (including the powers of appointment, substitution, and revocation) to prosecute this application and any division, continuation, continuation-in-part, reexamination, or reissue thereof, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith; the mailing address and the telephone number of the correspondence attorney is:

Christopher C. Dremann
P. O. Box 489
Hickory, N. C., 28603-0489
(828) 901-5904

Signatures, Full Names, Addresses, and Citizenship of Inventors:

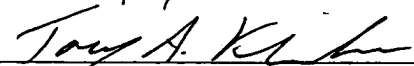

James P. Luther
2471 Rolling Ridge Drive
Hickory, NC 28602
Citizenship: USA
Date: 9/30/03


Terry L. Cooke
908 28th Avenue NE
Hickory, NC 28601
Citizenship: USA
Date: 9/30/2003

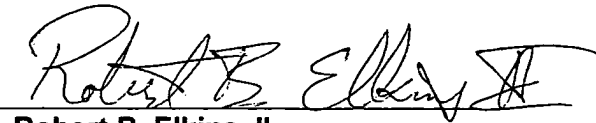
Michael deJong
5104 Broken Bow Drive
Ft. Worth, TX 76137
Citizenship: USA
Date: _____



Lars K. Nielsen
383 Beth Haven Church Road
Denver, NC 28037
Citizenship: Denmark
Date: 9/30/2003



Tory A. Klavuhn
1670 Fairway Drive
Newton, NC 28658
Citizenship: USA
Date: 9-30-2003



Robert B. Elkins, II
2472 23rd Street NE
Hickory, NC 28601
Citizenship: USA
Date: 9/30/2003



Thomas Theuerkorn
2830 16th Street NE, #131
Hickory, NC 28601
Citizenship: Germany
Date: 09-30-2003

**Michael deJong**

5104 Broken Bow Drive

Ft. Worth, TX 76137

Citizenship: USA**Date:** 9.29.2003**Robert B. Elkins, II**2472 23rd Street NE

Hickory, NC 28601

Citizenship: USA**Date:** _____**Lars K. Nielsen**

383 Beth Haven Church Road

Denver, NC 28037

Citizenship: Denmark**Date:** _____**Thomas Theuerkorn**2830 16th Street NE, #131

Hickory, NC 28601

Citizenship: Germany**Date:** _____